

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 HA-05 CIAE-00
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, ET
SUBJ: IMF/WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING

1. WOLLE CHEKOL, HEAD OF ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN OFFICE INFORMED EMBOFF 8/21 THAT ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION TO SUBJECT MEETING NOT YET DETERMINED. MOST PROBABLE MEMBERS INCLUDE MINISTER OF FINANCE TEFERRA WOLDE SEMAYAT AND ONE OR TWO EXPERTS FROM MINFIN; LEGESSE TIKKEHER, GOVERNOR OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF ETHIOPIA (NBE) PLUS ONE OR TWO EXPERTS FROM NBE; AND POSSIBLE WOLLE CHEKOL HIMSELF. EMBASSY WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS DELEGATION CONFIRMED.

2. ISSUE CERTAIN TO BE RAISED BY ETHIOPIANS, OR TO RECEIVE STRONG ETHIOPIAN SUPPORT, IS POLITICIZATION OF ILI'S. ETHIOPIANS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BELGRADE RESOLUTION CONDEMN-ING THE USE OF ANY CRITERIA OTHER THAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN DETERMINING ILI LOANS AND GRANTS.

3. US EFFORTS TO INJECT ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND PROMPT ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE COMPENSATION FOR NATIONALIZED PROPERTIES INTO ILI LOAN/GRANT APPROVAL PROCEDURES HAS DIRECTLY AFFECTED ETHIOPIANS (I.E. US ABSTENTION IN APRIL 1978
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ON WORLD BANK LOAN TO ETHIOPIA FOR GRAIN STORAGE AND MARKET-ING PROJECT FOR ETHIOPIA). PMGSE DELEGATION MAY TAKE UP MATTER DIRECTLY WITH US DELEGATION, ALTHOUGH IT IS MORE LIKELY TO SETTLE FOR ROLE OF VOCAL MEMBER OF GROUP SUPPORT-ING GENERAL PRINCIPLE OF NON-POLITICIZATION, CITING US AS MAIN VIOLATOR OF PRINCIPLE.

4. MAIN BILATERAL ISSUE BETWEEN US AND ETHIOPIA AT PRESENT WHICH US DELEGATION SHOULD BE AWARE OF IS NON-COMPENSATION BY PMGSE FOR US PROPERTIES NATIONALIZED EARLY 1975. ALTHOUGH PMGSE READILY AND REPEATEDLY ADMITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND INTENTION TO PAY COMPENSATION CLAIMS, LITTLE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE IN DOING SO; TO DATE, IN FACT, NO COMPENSATION CLAIMS YET RESOLVED. UNLESS REAL PROGRESS MADE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE, US WILL BE REQUIRED TO INVOKE GONZALEZ AMENDMENT, BRINGING ABOUT ALSO INVOCATION HICKENLOOPER AND TRADE ACT 1974 SANCTIONS. PMGSE OFFICIALS WELL AWARE OF ISSUE AND DANGERS INVOLVED.
CHAPIN

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Message Attributes

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